

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 01285 311906Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----103977 311911Z /50

O 311750Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6242  
AMEMBASSY VALETTA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL CAPETWON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 1285

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

VALLETTA FOR YOUNG AND MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA  
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: PREPARIN G SWAPO VIA LUANDA

REF: (A) LAGOS 1212, (B) LUSAKA 0259, (C) VALLETTA 0119,  
(D) USUN 0301, (E) STATE 023830

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 01285 311906Z

1. CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS IN LAGOS MET THIS AFTERNOON AT  
AMERICAN EMBASSY TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE APPROACH TO NETO.

2. WE AGREED THAT APPROACH COULD BEST BE MADE BY MEMBER(S)  
OF CONTACT GROUP FROM NEW YORK. PRESSURES ON NEW YORKERS' TIME  
HOWEVER, WERE READILY RECOGNIZED. SENDING CONTACT GROUP REPRESENTATIVES TO LUANDA FROM LUSAKA, DAR ES SALAAM, OR MAPUTO WERE

OPTIONS WE ASSUMED CONTACT GROUP CAPITALS WERE EXAMINING. AIR TRANSPORT LINKS, STAFF AVAILABILITIES AND COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES AT THESE VARIOUS MISSIONS WOULD PRESUMABLY BE AMONG THE

MAJOR FACTORS TO BE WEIGHED. GERMAN AND CANADIAN AMBASSADORS SAID THEIR LUSAKA MISSIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, WERE THINLY STAFFED AND POORLY SERVED BY COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES. AS FOR MAKING THE APPROACH TO NETO FROM LAGOS, WE WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO GO INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A GROUP IF INSTRUCTED, ALTHOUGH FRENCH AMBASSADOR MIGHT REQUEST TO BE EXCUSED ON GROUNDS THAT FRENCH CHARGE' IN LUANDA WOULD CONSTITUTE SUFFICIENT FRENCH REPRESENTATION.

3. WE AGREED THAT A CG MISSION TO LUANDA FROM LAGOS WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY EXPLAINED TO GARBA. WE DID NOT BELIEVE THIS WOULD PRESENT DIFFICULT PROBLEMS ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZED POSSIBILITY OF UNFAVORABLE REACTION TIED TO RECENT NETO VISIT TO NIGERIA. FOR EXAMPLE, IF OBASANJO HAD IN FACT PRESSED NETO TO WORK ON NUJOMA, GARBA MIGHT RESENT LAGOS CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS TRYING TO DO THE SAME THING. (NO ONE HAS IN FACT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THAT NAMIBIAN SITUATION WAS DISCUSSED WITH NETO OTHER THAN CURSORILY DURING HIS VISIT.) HOWEVER, VALUE OF OUR DISCUSSING WITH NETO THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSALS FOR NAMIBIA SHOULD BE READILY EVIDENT TO GARBA. (WE BELIEVE GARBA WOULD BE WILLING INSTRUCT NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR MUSA IN LUANDA TO ASSIST US SHOULD WE SO REQUEST, BUT WE WOULD

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 01285 311906Z

WISH AVOID BEING IN THE POSITION OF RELYING EXCLUSIVELY ON MUSA FOR ANYTHING.)

4. WE NOTE FROM USUN 0301 CONCERNING TIMING OF DISTRIBUTION OF OUR NAMIBIAN PROPOSAL THAT DISTRIBUTION TO THE FRONT LINE STATES MIGHT BE SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3. WE PRESUME PROPOSAL WOULD BE TELEGRAPHED TO FRENCH CHARGE' FOR PRESENTATION IN LUANDA. THUS NETO WOULD HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THESE PROPOSALS PRIOR TO MEETING WITH LAGOS AMBASSADORS THE NEXT MORNING (SEE BELOW).

5. TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS

AS SEEMS SO OFTEN TO HAPPEN HERE, THE NIGERIAN AIRWAYS WEEKEND LINK WITH LUANADA THAT WE THOUGHT MIGHT SERVE US WELL (LAGOS 1212) HAS SUDDENLY EVAPORATED. FOLLOWING ITINERARY HOWEVER WOULD GET US TO LUANDA IN TIME TO BE USEFUL: DEPART LAGOS FOR MADRID 10:45 A.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2 ON IBERIAN AIRLINES 962, ARRIVING MADRID 3:40P.M. OVERNIGHT MADRID. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 DEPART MADRID 11:10 A.M. ARRIVING LISBON 11:30 A.M. ON PORTUGUESE AIRLINE FLT. 703. DEPART LISBON FOR LUANDA AT 3:30 P.M.,ARRIVING AT 11:55 P.M. ON ANGOLAN AIRLINES FLT. 651. RETURN FROM LUANDA TO LAGOS BY GOOD OLD NIGERIA AIRWAYS FLT. 750 DEPARTING 2

P.M. SATURDAY. IN THE EVENT THEY SHOULD BE NEEDED, WE HAVE MADE  
PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS IF CAPITALS WISH ANY OF US TO MAKE  
THIS TRIP, WE NEED YOUR GREEN LIGHT WITHIN NEXT THIRTY-SIX HOURS.  
AND NETO NEEDS TO BE ASKED (BY THE FRENCH CHARGE?) WHETHER HE  
CAN RECEIVE US SATURDAY MORNING.  
EASUM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, AMBASSADORS MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PORG, PDEV, SF, WA, AO, (NETO, AGOSTINHO)  
**To:** STATE VALETTA  
**Type:** TE  
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